

Items of Interest.

—New York tailors, to the number of 17,000, are on a strike.

—Only fourteen candidates are up for the governorship of Indiana.

—Electric locomotives are now being used on one of the short roads in Massachusetts.

—The five largest locomotive tire manufacturers of the United States are about to consolidate.

—The largest cruiser ever built by England, was launched at Barrow, July 26. It is known as the Powerful.

—Mme Patti is the best paid woman worker in the world, having received, for years, \$3,000 a night for her singing.

—On Monday, July 29, a mail car, coming west on the Lake Shore, was burned, with all the mail, at Rockport, O.

—Rev. William Edward Beecher, brother of Henry Ward Beecher, died at his home in Brooklyn, July 28, in his ninety-second year.

—The motto of the Cubans is, "Independence or Death." They are desperate, and claim "protection for all, and absolute freedom."

—China is completing arrangements to place large orders for ships, guns, small arms and ammunition. America, it is believed, will be favored with large orders.

—The machine shops of the Cotton Belt railroad have been recently moved from Pine Bluff, Ark., to Texarkana, owing to the fact that the saloons have been voted out at the latter place.

—Train No. 27, on the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern road, was held up and robbed, at Reese, a small station thirty-eight miles east of Toledo, O., July 24. The robbers only secured \$150 in cash.

—By the assassination of Nicholas Stefan Stambuloff, Bulgaria loses her one great man. He was to Bulgaria, what Lincoln was to the United States. He was really the founder of the new state, and his death will be deeply deplored, not only by the friends of Balkan independence, but by all the liberty loving people of Europe. He has often been styled "the Bismarck of Bulgaria," and in some respects his career justifies this title. Serious European complications are now feared, and it appears that the prediction made by Bismarck in 1878, that "the spark that would ignite Europe would start from the Balkans," is likely to be realized.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Preacher's Magazine for August is at hand, with rich and attractive matter. The sermon, by Dr. Hugh Macmillan, entitled, "The Door of the Sheep," is of great worth. The Rev. F. B. Meyer contributes a choice Sermon upon "The Woman Who Saved a Man." The Rev. Mark Guy Pearse furnishes another excellent paper of a series upon "In the Banqueting House." Another valuable paper by Rev. John Edwards on "Methods of Illustration," enriches this number. The Homiletical matter is varied and instructive: "Before the Lord's Supper, by Rev. W. G. Barrett; "A Tale of Two Cities," by Rev. James Dunk; "Salem," by Rev. E. A. Griffin; "Indifference to Christ," by Rev. F. Rought Wilson, are all of superior merit. Notes and Illustrations, brief sermons for busy readers, Sermonette on the birds of the Bible, a children's sermon, are of their usual attractiveness. Dr. William E. Ketcham comments with ability upon the International Lesson and gives Outline Addresses upon the Golden Texts. The Prayer Meeting Talks in Outline, by the late Dr. Deems, are helpful. Published by—Wilbur B. Ketcham, 2 Cooper Union, New York. The price of single copies is 15 cents, or \$1.50 per year.

How and when to use the blackboard in the primary class of the Sunday-school is a question of practical interest to all primary teachers. Alice May Douglas, a well-known primary worker, contributes a bright, helpful article on this subject to *The Sunday-school times* of August 3. Miss Douglas does not advocate the drawing of elaborate lesson pictures, but suggests ways and means of illustration within the power of the average teacher.

The Sunday-school Times will publish in the near future the third of Professor Sayce's current series of articles on the latest results of Egyptian research. In this forthcoming article, he reviews the whole subject of the Tel el-Amarna tablets which were exhumed some few years ago at the site of a little town on the Nile. These tablets are about thirty-three centuries old, and are one of the most important of recent Egyptian finds.

The Chautauquan for August is filled with rich and attractive matter. The number opens with Santa Barbara Floral Festivals, by Miss S. A. Higgins. Numerous fine illustrations add to the interest of this article. Journalism of the Baptist church in the United States, by professor Henry C. Vedder, is an instructive and entertaining article, accompanied with a

dozen or more, portraits of the editor's of the leading Baptist Journals in the country. Woman's Council Table, contains The Philosophy of Rest, by Lilian Whiting. "The New Woman," Is She New? by Alice Hilton. The elements of Hospitality by E. Huntington Miller. A Plea for the Working girl, Feathered Whispers, The Traveler. Numerous other articles for General Reading, Current History and Opinion, keep up the standard of this very excellent Magazine.

A MIDSUMMER MAGAZINE.

Frank R. Stockton, the author of "The Lady, or the Tiger?" contributes under the title of "Love Before Breakfast," one of the most delightful love stories to the August *Ladies' Home Journal*. Dr. Parkhurst writes wisely and well of "The Training of a Child," giving advice which cannot fail to be of value to parents everywhere. The biography of the number consists of a most interesting sketch of "The Writer We Know as 'Octave Thonet,'" which is accompanied by a portrait of the author and several excellent views of Miss French's home at Davenport, Ia. Ethel Mackenzie McKenna writes interestingly of "The Author of 'Alice in Wonderland,'" and Mrs. Hamilton Mott contributes a short sketch of Mrs. Theodore Thomas. Thomas Wharton is represented by a clever little story, "A Thrippenny Token." "Tom Moore's First Sweetheart," who lies buried in an unknown grave in Greenwood Cemetery, is touchingly written of: her life as a girl, wife mother and grandmother being touched upon, as well as her career as an actress. This is but a very partial table of contents of this the greatest Woman's Magazine published. Published by The Curtis Publishing Company, of Philadelphia, for ten cents per number and one dollar per year.

SPOILED THE MUSIC.

"You will have to give me another room," said a visitor to the hotel manager.

"What's the matter; aren't you comfortable where you are?"

"Well, not exactly. That German musician in the next room and I don't get along well. Last night he tooted away on his clarionet so that I thought I never would get to sleep. After I had caught a few winks I was awakened by a pounding on my door. 'What's the matter?' I asked. 'Of you please,' said the German, 'dot you vould schnore of der same key. You vas go from B flat to G and it schpoils der moosic.'"—*Sel.*

"The man who doubts the love of his brother, will be sure to doubt the love of his brother's God."